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The China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.—The closing rate of the dollar on demand, to-day was 107s.

No. 27,726

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1931.

PRICE \$3.00 Per Month.

CHASE OFF PEDRO BLANCO.**British Chief Officer Tells His Story.****A QUESTION OF DISTANCES**

At the resumed trial at the Assizes this morning of twelve prisoners charged on an amended indictment of assault with force and arms on the high seas, Mr. James Moodie, Chief Officer of the s.s. Hang Sang, was the principal witness.

Before calling any evidence, Mr. Somerset Fitzroy, for the Crown, made application to the Acting Chief Justice that two points be reserved for the consideration of the Full Court. The first one concerned the question as to whether the present Court had any jurisdiction as to quashing indictments. The second, it was understood, referred to the framing of the indictments themselves.

After some discussion, His Lordship decided that the application could be brought up later.

After the reading of the depositions of the three witnesses aboard H.M.S. Somme, who are at present at sea, as to what occurred on January 4, Mr. Moodie was called.

Crew in Distress.

Mr. Moodie said that on January 4 he had just finished tiffin.

He heard the telegraph ring, and went up above. He heard shouts when he got there, and a little later saw a junk on the starboard side. The crew were shouting and waving jackets, apparently to attract attention. Two smaller junks were following up the other. The big junk was approximately a mile away. The others were about the same distance away, and about 200 yards from the big one, a trader. When the two smaller junks sighted the Hang Sang they headed away inshore, taking courses at a tangent. The big junk then came alongside the steamer. The crew was in a very bad state of exhaustion.

Witness made enquiries through his comrade. The junk people said they had been chased for a considerable time. The Hang Sang took the junk in tow, but the tow-rope broke, so the steamer went out to head off the other two.

Material Dumped.

"During the time we were chasing them," said witness, "I observed a quantity of material being thrown overboard from one of them. I could not distinguish what it was. They threw four lots overboard in the space of about 15 minutes, or until we had practically rounded them up."

The Hang Sang rounded up one junk, and the s.s. Soochow the other. H.M.S. Somme was now on the scene, and the Soochow proceeded on her way. Witness communicated with H.M.S. Somme, who took charge of affairs. The nearest other vessels in sight were some junks about seven or eight miles away.

Heard No Firing.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hinsching Lo, for the defence: He did not himself witness any criminal assault.

"Did you yourself hear any firing?—Not from the junks. We fired one shot."

How far were the junks away when you first heard the shouts?—I should say about one mile. It is difficult to estimate exact distances.

You could hear the shouts at that distance because it was a calm and quiet day?—It was very calm.

The shouts came with the wind?—There was no wind. It was dead calm.

Sound travels fast on a calm day?—Of course.

How far would you be able to hear a rifle shot on a calm day?—One shot alone might not attract my attention.

His Lordship: I think there is other evidence on this point of common knowledge.

Mr. Lo: Did you then and there, when you heard the shouts, form an opinion as to what was happening?—How could I? I did not know what was being said.

You had no opinion as to the heard from the junk people, nature of the affair, until you—that is so.

Steamer On Guard!

Mr. Lo went on to as whether this was pointed at the junk which was alongside the steamer.

Mr. Moodie: We had been in

FOKKER PLANE CRASH.**On Way to the East Indies.****AIRMEN UNHURT.**

Prague, Yesterday. A Dutch Fokker aeroplane, engaged in the mail service to the East Indies crashed near Kradso, Bohemia. The two airmen were unhurt, but the machine was damaged.—Reuter.

readiness, but not pointed at them. We were naturally suspicious...

His Lordship: That is quite clear, I think, Mr. Lo.

After a further series of questions His Lordship said to Mr. Lo: "Mr. Moodie has come here to tell us what happened, and not to draw inferences."

Mr. Lo later suggested that the twelve prisoners were detained aboard H.M.S. Somme on witness's information.

His Lordship (to witness): You went aboard H.M.S. Somme, and made your report?—That is so, my Lord.

Witness went on to say that the steamer of the junk made the report. He was exhausted, like the others. He made a valuable communication.

Distances At Sea.

Describing the chase, witness said that from the time they sang "Stand By" until they went after the two other junks it was about 40 minutes. The steamer headed off both junks from the shore. They had been on a divergent course before they took convergent courses when they headed back to sea.

Mr. Lo: On a good calm day like that how far could you see the sail of a ship?—About ten miles.

How far generally?—About eight miles.

How far away can a man see a steamer when standing on the deck of a Chinese junk?—The horizon of Chinese junk is about five miles.

How far away can a man see the smoke of a steamer?—That is an impossible question to answer. It all depends on the day.

Reverting to the first sight of the three junks by witness Mr. Lo suggested that only in the light of later knowledge had he formed the opinion that the two smaller ones were chasing the other.

Witness: It seemed obvious at the time that they were chasing her.

Regular Steamer Track.

Witness added that the steamer was about twelve miles from land, and seven miles from Pedro Blanco. Later, when he rounded up one of the junks, the crew seemed tired, but not nearly so exhausted as the people on the one that came alongside in the first place. He saw no fishing nets being thrown overboard during the chase. He could not identify any of the prisoners.

Mr. Lo, concluding his cross-examination suggested that for three hours, although in the regular steamer track, no other steamer had been sighted.

Witness: That is quite probable. It was not on watch at the time, so cannot say as to that period. But you might very well go from here to Swatow without seeing one at all.

Jack Master's Story.

After official Police evidence, the master of the big junk was called. He said they "met some pirates," at about 11 a.m. on January 4. They ordered him to stop, having fired several shots.

The case is proceeding.

Counts Quashed.

At the resumed hearing yesterday afternoon, His Lordship quashed all three original counts. He said he had decided to leave judgment on the matter to the Full Court.

His Lordship held that the first count did not appear to be one of a piratical character. There was no allegation by the Crown of intention to acquire by force the property of the persons attacked.

The second count did not coincide with any definite crime under the laws of the Colony. The third count was one of attempted piracy, but, in his view, this did not constitute a possible fact.

A fourth charge of robbery with violence and arms, was then heard, after some demur by Mr. Lo.

Mr. Lo: Could you outline the circumstances of the attack?—details of which have already appeared in these columns.

KNIGHTHOOD FOR CAPT. CAMPBELL.**King Honours British Racing Motorist.****SECOND TO BEAR TITLE.**

Rugby, Yesterday. H.M. the King has conferred a Knighthood upon Captain Malcolm Campbell, who returned to Britain to-day from his record-breaking feat of attaining a speed of 245 miles an hour in his Napier Blue Bird motor car at Daytona. He reached Plymouth this morning in the Mauretania and continued the journey by liner to Southampton, where a civic reception and banquet awaited him.

The news of his honour was conveyed to Capt. Campbell in a note from the Prime Minister, handed to him immediately the Mauretania reached Southampton. The note said:

"I am glad to inform you that His Majesty has been pleased to approve that the honour of a Knighthood be conferred upon you."

Premier's Praise.

The Premier's message expressed his personal congratulations. In an interview Capt. Campbell said that he wished the United States aspirant for the record the best of luck. If a speed of 300 miles per hour, which it was stated the new car would achieve, were reached, he would attempt to go one better and regain the title.

The Blue Bird had not done her fastest yet. Visibility was one of the great obstacles to be overcome by future record breakers.

Capt. Campbell will leave Southampton for London tomorrow and a great popular welcome is in preparation. The Government reception will take place in Westminster Hall. — British Wireless Service.

Rainfall.

Rainfall for 24 hours ended at 10 a.m. today—nil. Rainfall since January 1—0.58 inch against an average of 2.59 inches—deficit 2.06 inch.

Temperature.

The temperature at certain specified centres this morning at 6 o'clock was:

Hong Kong	59
Macau	50
Pratas Island	72
Manila	70
Foochow	46
Amoy	50
Swatow	—
Choofoo	28
Shanghai	40

drawn, that no payment should be made toward purchasing railway material and demanding an arrangement as regards arrears of interest on Chinese Railways loans, which are now in default.

Capt. Campbell will be the Second Captain of the Blue Bird; his official name is "Sir Malcolm Campbell." There being another gentleman of the same name, a florist of Glasgow, who was knighted in 1922 in recognition of his services to charity.)

DEBT TO BRITAIN.**SIXTY PER CENT. TO BE REMITTED.****\$600,000,000 OWING.****Rugby, Yesterday.**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to a question in the House of Commons said that the net war debt of France to Britain in 1926 on the date of signature of the funding agreement was £600,000,000. The value as at the same date of the annuities payable calculated at five per cent was £227,000,000. On that basis 62 per cent of the debt was remitted. — British Wireless Service.

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INDEMNITY BILL.**GIFT TO CHINA OF £3,000,000.****RAILWAY LOANS.****BRITISH HELP FOR CHINESE.****London, Yesterday.**

The House of Commons to-day passed the third reading of the China Indemnity Bill, which involves the gift to China of over £3,000,000.

Dr. Hugh Dalton, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, accepted a Conservative amendment that the Board of Trustees should contain British members, but declined to agree to a Liberal amendment, which was later withdrawn.

In the House of Commons this afternoon Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Minister of Health, stated that 272 civilian cases had been reported during the past 11 weeks, and added that it had been well established that overcrowding in barracks, schools and other institutions had favoured the spread of the infection, but no notable example of it had hitherto been discovered.—Reuter.

OVERCAST.

To-day's weather report, from the Royal Observatory, states:

A new anti-cyclone has formed over S.E. Mongolia.

Fresh monsoon prevails along the S.E. Coast of China and a moderate monsoon over the N. China Sea.

Forecast:—N.E. winds; moderate; generally overcast; drizzle and mist.

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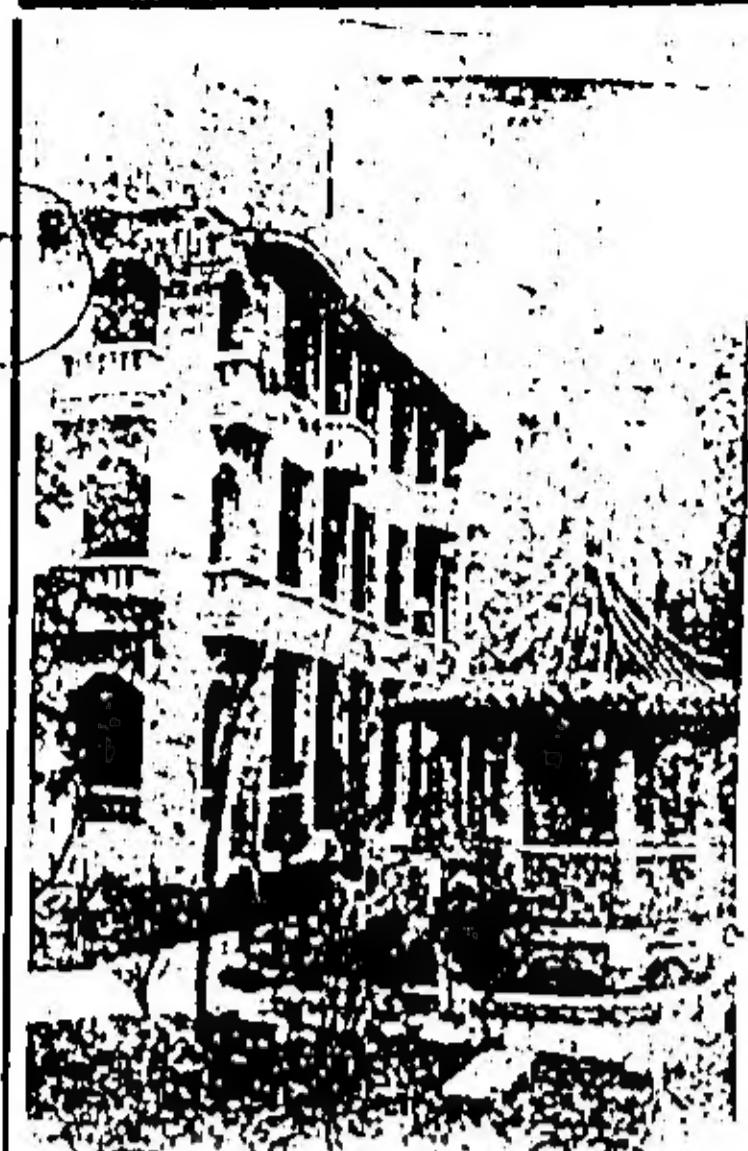
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GOVERNMENT NOTICES

G. R.
PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS & CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 23rd day of February, 1931, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of one Lot of Crown Land at Tai Kok Tsui in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements	Contents in Square feet.	Annual Rent.
1	Kowloon Island, Lot No. 2111, Between Kowloon No. 1, Kowloon No. 2, Kowloon No. 3, Kowloon No. 4, Kowloon No. 5, Kowloon No. 6, Kowloon No. 7, Kowloon No. 8, Kowloon No. 9, Kowloon No. 10, Kowloon No. 11, Kowloon No. 12, Kowloon No. 13, Kowloon No. 14, Kowloon No. 15, Kowloon No. 16, Kowloon No. 17, Kowloon No. 18, Kowloon No. 19, Kowloon No. 20, Kowloon No. 21, Kowloon No. 22, Kowloon No. 23, Kowloon No. 24, Kowloon No. 25, Kowloon No. 26, Kowloon No. 27, Kowloon No. 28, Kowloon No. 29, Kowloon No. 30, Kowloon No. 31, Kowloon No. 32, Kowloon No. 33, Kowloon No. 34, Kowloon No. 35, Kowloon No. 36, Kowloon No. 37, Kowloon No. 38, Kowloon No. 39, Kowloon No. 40, Kowloon No. 41, Kowloon No. 42, Kowloon No. 43, Kowloon No. 44, Kowloon No. 45, Kowloon No. 46, Kowloon No. 47, Kowloon No. 48, Kowloon No. 49, Kowloon No. 50, Kowloon No. 51, Kowloon No. 52, Kowloon No. 53, Kowloon No. 54, Kowloon No. 55, Kowloon No. 56, Kowloon No. 57, Kowloon No. 58, Kowloon No. 59, Kowloon No. 60, Kowloon 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SAN FRANCISCO via Shanghai, Japan Ports & Honolulu.
CHICHIBU MARU Wednesday, 4th March.
TATSUTA MARU Wednesday, 18th March.
SEATTLE, VICTORIA via Shanghai & Japan Ports.
HEIAN MARU Tuesday, 24th February at 2 a.m.
HIYE MARU Thursday, 26th March.
LONDON, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM via
Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Suez.
YASUKUNI MARU Saturday, 21st February.
HAKONE MARU Saturday, 7th March.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.
ATSUTA MARU Thursday, 26th March.
BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.
† TOKIWA MARU Friday, 27th February.
KAGA MARU Wednesday, 11th March.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles,
Mexico & Panama.
HEIYO MARU Thursday, 5th March.
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports,
KAWACHI MARU Thursday, 20th March.
NEW YORK, BOSTON via Panama.
† TAKETOYO MARU Thursday, 12th March.
LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Istanbul (Constantinople), Genoa.
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.
† CALCUTTA MARU Saturday, 14th March.
† PENANG MARU Sunday, 1st March.
† PENANG MARU Sunday, 8th March.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
FUSHIMI MARU Saturday, 21st February.
KANAGAWA MARU Sunday, 22nd February.
TANGO MARU Monday, 24th March.
*Cargo only

For further information apply to:—NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
Telephone 30291. (Private exchange to all departments.)

O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONG KONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP via Singapore, Colombo, Suez & Port Said.	Amazon Maru	Tues.	10th Mar.
RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Capetown.	Hawaii Maru	Fri.	6th Mar.
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.	Sumatra Maru	Fri.	6th Mar.
DURBAN, LOURENCO MARQUES, BEIRA, DARESSALAH, ZANZIBAR & MOMBASA via Singapore & Colombo.	Panama Maru	Tues.	3rd Mar.
MELBOURNE via Manila, Brisbane & Sydney.	Sydney Maru	Fri.	6th Mar.
CALCUTTA via Singapore & Rangoon.	Tacoma Maru	Wed.	4th Mar.
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER via Japan Ports.	Africa Maru	Tues.	31st Mar.
NEW YORK via Japan ports, Los Angeles & Panama. Call Direct at Boston, Philadelphia & Baltimore.	Hokuroku Maru	Thurs.	10th Mar.
JAPAN PORTS (Freight Service).	Burma Maru	Mon.	23rd Feb.
HAIPHONG via Hanoi & Pakhoi (Fortnightly).	Menado Maru	Thurs.	5th Mar.
KEELUNG via Swatow & Amoy (Every Sunday Noon).	Hosan Maru	Sun.	22nd Feb.
TAKAO via Swatow & Amoy (Fortnightly).	Canton Maru	Sun.	1st Mar.
	Deli Maru	Thurs.	26th Feb.

For further particulars please apply to:

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

Telephone 28061.

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be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. H. E.

Goldsmith, 525, The Peak.

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SAVAGE TUG "TAIKOO"
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Length on Blocks 750 Feet.

Depth on Centre of

Ship (H.W.O.T.) 34 ft. 6 ins.

THREE SLIPWAYS

Capable of Handling Ships Up
to 3,000 Tons Displacement.

Electric Crane at Sea Wall. Capable of
Lifting 100 Tons at 70 Feet Radius.

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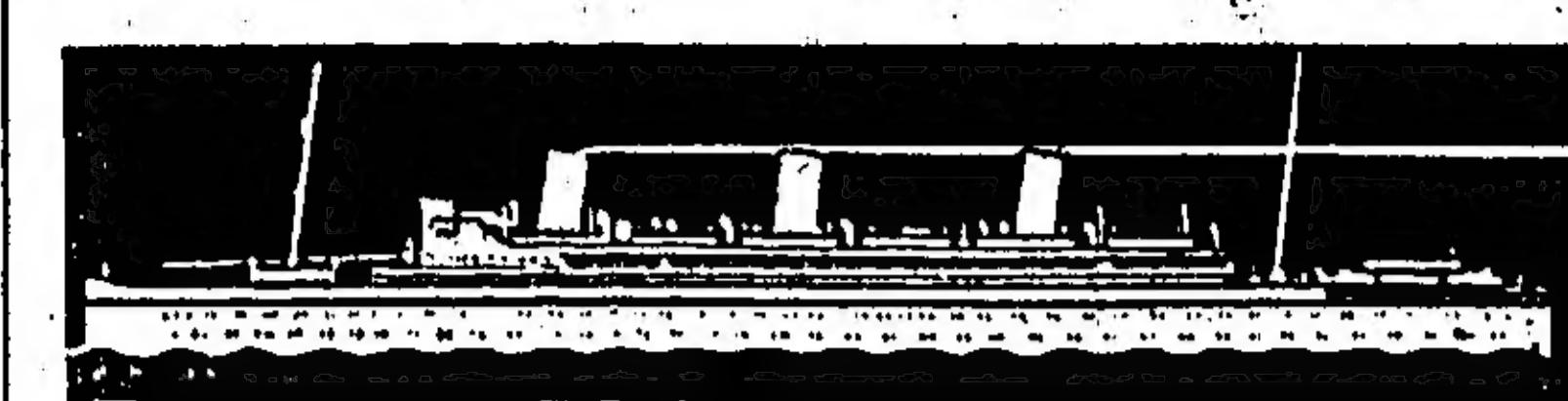
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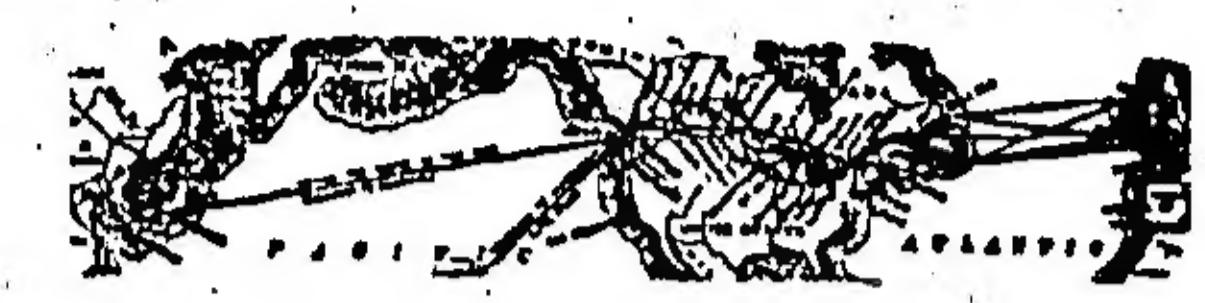
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use specially.



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WORLD'S GREATEST TRAVEL SYSTEM

BRITISH WUCHOW LINE

FEBRUARY SAILINGS.

DEPARTURE HOURS:
Hong Kong 5.30 p.m. Wuchow 2 p.m.

S.S. "TAI HING"

[1,068 tons—Capt. Trott.]

FEBRUARY.

SAT. 21st THURS. 26th

S.S. "TAI MING"

[649 tons—Capt. W. H. Lawton.]

TUES. 24th FEBRUARY.

For information apply to
SANG WO Co., Ltd.
29, Connaught Road, West.
Phone 20893.

PASSENGER LISTS.

ARRIVALS.

Per ss. Kitano Maru from Japan
via ports on February 18.—
Mr. T. Hidajima, Mr. E. Kosono.

DEPARTURES.

Per ss. Kitano Maru for Australia
via ports yesterday.—
Mr. M. Suzuki, Mr. T. Nishi, Mr. T. Soaki, Mrs. Otto Schroll, Mr. Vincent G. Garanpan, Miss Martha B. Caldwell, Mr. S. Tsuchya, Mr. and Mrs. Willoquet and 4 children.

Mr. C. S. Johnson.

Per ss. Taiyo Maru for San Francisco, via ports yesterday:

Mrs. E. Boyd, Mr. Wm. Stouley Clark, Dr. Emma E. Fleming, Miss Katherine Hand, Mr. C. S. Atwell, Mr. N. Mayekawa, Mr. Leon Mata, Mr. Antonio Castro, O. C. Mong, Mrs. J. B. Taylor, Miss Taylor, Mr. S. Clappan, Mr. K. R. Shupp, Miss F. E. Shupp, Mr. Marcel Vigueron, Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Beach, Mr. Carlos Pellicer, Mr. Francisco Valdez, Mr. Florencio Turina, Mr. Conrado Gonzalez, Mr. Tirso P. Medrano, Mr. Gregorio Labrador, Mr. J. Van Klaveren, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Lopes, Messrs. Gabino Sawal, Justino Sawal, Protacio Sawal, Gacia, Aurelio Santos, Delfin F. Cruz, Inocencia Agustin, Daniel Pilar, Mr. and Mrs. Rose Mackay and child, Mrs. L. G. Culley, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dawson, Mr. A. Hutchison, Mr. Jose Pasigian, Mr. Carlos Resurrection, Mr. Maxim Vergara, Miss Josephine Resurrection, Miss Macdonald Culson, Miss Rufina Cuisin, Miss Manuela Cuzion.

Per ss. Tropicana, via ports yesterday:

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Johnson.

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Mr. and Mrs. John C. Johnson.

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P. & O.-British India Apcar and Eastern & Australian Lines

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Straits, Java, Burma, Ceylon, India, Persian Gulf, West Indies, Mauritius, East and South Africa, Australasia, including New Zealand and Queensland Ports, and Red Sea, Egypt, Constantinople, Greece, Levantine Ports, Europe, &c.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL FORTNIGHTLY DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.

(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

S.S.	Tons.	From Hong Kong About	Destination
TALWA	10,880	28th Feb.	1931.
TAIPORE	5,273	2nd Mar.	Marseilles & London.
KHIVA	9,135	7th Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
THYBER	9,114	14th Mar.	Mars., London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
SOMALI	—	21st Mar.	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	28th Mar.	Mars., London & London.
KARMALA	9,128	11th Apr.	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
RAJPUTANA	16,563	25th Apr.	Mars., London & London.
SOU'DAN	—	2nd May	Mars., London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
IKALYAN	9,144	9th May	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
COMORIN	15,132	23rd May	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
KASHMIR	8,985	6th June	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
RANPURA	16,601	20th June	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
KASHGAR	9,065	4th July	M'silles, L'don, R'dam & A'werp.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	18th July	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
THYBER	9,114	1st Aug.	M'silles, L'don, R'dam & A'werp.
RAJPUTANA	16,563	15th Aug.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
KARMALA	9,128	29th Aug.	Mars., London & London.
CATHAY	15,121	12th Sept.	Mars., London & London.
IKALYAN	9,144	26th Sept.	Mars., London & London.

*Cargo only. *Calls Casablanca.

Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Pireaus, Smyrna and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Kedival Mail Steamship Co.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

S.S.	Tons.	From Hong Kong About	Destination
TAKADA	6,949	27th Feb.	1931.
TILAWA	10,006	21st Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
SANTHIA	7,754	2nd Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
TALMA	10,000	12th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
TAKADA	6,949	2nd May	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.

B.I. ApCar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South).

S.S.	Tons.	From Hong Kong About	Destination
TANDA	6,956	28th Feb.	Manila, Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	1st Apr.	
NELLORE	6,853	1st May	

Regular monthly sailings from Hong Kong to Shanghai and Japan and Hong Kong to Australia. Hong Kong to Sydney—19 days. Frequent connections from Australasia with the following:—The Union S.S. Company's steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand, Vancouver, San Francisco, etc. The P. & O. Royal Mail Steamers to London and The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via Suez. The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN.

S.S.	Tons.	From Hong Kong About	Destination
SOMALI	—	22nd Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TILAWA	10,003	27th Feb.	Daylight Amoy, Shai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	28th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Yokohama.
TAIPORE	8,715	5th Mar.	Moji & Kobe.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	6th Mar.	Shai, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Y'hama.
SANTHIA	7,754	11th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
KARMALA	9,128	14th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
SOU'DAN	—	19th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
TALMA	10,000	21st Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
RAJPUTANA	16,583	27th Mar.	Shai, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Y'hama.
NELLORE	6,853	6th Apr.	Amoy, Shai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
TAKADA	9,040	10th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
KALYAN	9,144	10th Apr.	Amoy, Shai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
TILAWA	10,006	24th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
COMORIN	15,132	24th Apr.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
KASHMIR	8,985	8th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
TANDA	8,985	8th May	Shai, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Y'hama.
TALAMBA	8,018	12th May	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
RAJPUTANA	16,601	22nd May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
KASHGAR	9,000	2nd June	Shai, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Y'hama.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	6th June	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	1st July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
THYBER	9,114	6th July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
NELLORE	6,853	17th July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.
RAJPUTANA	16,583	31st July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Y'hama.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

Passengers for Rangoon must defray their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while awaiting the on-carrying steamer.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.

Steamers on London and Australian Lines are fitted with Landlines.

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Estimates furnished on application.

Hong Kong, April 1, 1931.

STREAMLINE RUDDERS.

Interesting Alteration To Cunard Liner.

In addition to the extensive renewal of turbine casings in the machinery of the Cunard liner Carinthia, carried out recently at Messrs. Vickers' works at Barrow, a very interesting alteration in the stern post has been made since the vessel's return to Liverpool.

Nearly all the post-war vessels built by the Cunard Company are fitted with single plate type rudders with a small overhang balancing member on the forward side, fitted beneath the vertical line of the rudder pintles. This arrangement, coupled with the form of the stern post, results in approximately a 36-inch space between the rudder stock and the stern post, and permits very considerable eddying to take place from the immediately adjacent propellers.

The improvement which has just been carried out consists of filling each of the spaces between the rudder pintles with steel box structure fittings. The lowest one has been made to the radius of the stern frame, and the upper ones more or less rectangular, while an additional streamline cover plate has been fitted on each side of the box to secure an even flow of water past the stern frame and thence to the rudder itself.

No work has been done to the actual rudder, but should the alteration already carried out prove that it is worth the expenditure, no doubt a further streamline plating of the rudder structure will be put in hand.

NAVY'S WAR SECRET

SEA LIONS TRAINED TO HUNT SUBMARINES.

Not a few of the erstwhile "hush-hush" methods that were used to evict the German submarine menace have become known since the war, but it may be doubted whether many people have heard of the attempts made in 1917 to train sea lions to act as "U-boat retrievers," writes Hector C. Bywater, the Daily Telegraph naval correspondent.

Once a U-boat has submerged, its whereabouts become largely a matter of guesswork, and depth charges have to be dropped more or less at random. Now the sealion, besides being a most intelligent creature, is gifted with a wonderfully acute sense of hearing. Hopes were therefore cherished that it could be trained to detect the noise set up by the electrical motors of a submerged U-boat.

Experiments were conducted at Bala Lake, North Wales, headquarters being established at Glandlyn, the fishing lodge of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Near at hand were erected "stables" for 50 of the lions.

The animals were given preliminary instruction in a swimming pool, where their receptivity to various sounds under water was tested. "Queenie" proved a particularly apt pupil and as each successful attempt she made was rewarded by a generous meal of fish she soon became an enthusiast for the game. A wire muzzle was fitted over her mouth to prevent her from chasing fish.

At Bala she was taken out into the lake in a launch and released from the launch a sound-producing mechanism, enclosed in a metal case, was suspended well below the surface from a buoy. More often than not the sea lion would start swimming straight towards the sound-producing apparatus, 800 yards away, a few moments after the mechanism had been set in motion. On reaching the point where the "buzzer" was submerged the animal invariably stopped and then began swimming round in circles.

Had the sounds been produced by a submarine there would have been no difficulty in dropping depth charges almost on top of the vessel.

The range was gradually extended until it was found that a well-trained sea lion would detect and make for the "buzzer" up to a distance of nearly three miles.

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To AUSTRALIA. Calling at Manila (P. I.), Thursday Is., Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

BRITISH STEAMERS: CHANGTE - TAIPING (SUNNERS)

FASTERED MOST UP-TO-DATE STEAMERS IN THIS SERVICE.

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FIRST CLASS WARE TO SYDNEY \$75 RETURN.

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(Australian Newspapers on file)

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INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

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Destination Steamer Sailing

T'tau via Stow & Shai HANGSANG ... Sun, 22nd Feb. at 7 a.m.

T'tau via Stow & Shai YATSHING ... Wed, 25th Feb. at 7 a.m.

T'tau via Stow & Shai KWONGSANG ... Sun, 1st Mar. at 7 a.m.

T'tau via Stow & Shai CHAKSANG ... Wed, 4th Mar. at 7 a.m.

S'pore, Penang & Calcutta KUMSANG ... Mon, 3rd Mar. at 3 p.m.

S'pore, Penang & Calcutta HOSANG ... Sat, 9th Mar. at 3 p.m.

Osaka via Amoy, Moji & Kobe HOSANG ... Tues, 21st Mar. at 3 p.m.

Osaka via Amoy, Shanghai, Moji & KUTSANG ... Tues, 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1931.

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" PILSNER " BUT THERE IS
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PILSNER URQUELL,

Brewed at the town of Pilsen,
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Insist upon PILSNER
URQUELL, the original
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NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
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FROM FEBRUARY 17
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Well cut. With and without
Belts.

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HONG KONG.

The China Mail

[Every evening except Sunday.
Annual subscription, excluding
postage abroad, H.K. \$36, payable
in advance. Local delivery free.]

Overland China Mail

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Hong Kong, Friday, Feb. 20, 1931.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

There is at the present time a noticeable tendency to place the responsibility for trade depression upon monetary influences. These have played their part, but the causes of unemployment are varied and numerous and although many of them are world-wide in their application, others are more particularly associated with domestic conditions. It is this fact which gives value to an admirable pamphlet recently issued by the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, entitled "Realities and Problems" in which emphasis is laid on two of the causes which fall within this latter class, namely, the difficulty of reducing costs of production to a competitive level and the influence of the heavy burden of local and national taxation. The Home country is now called upon to carry. It would be difficult not to over-estimate the importance of these factors. According to the last issue of Barclay's Bank monthly review, the application of remedial measures lies to a considerable extent outside the power of the industries affected. Some proportion of the costs of production always consists of external elements over which the industry in question has little, if any, control and its inability to influence these items may nullify entirely its own efforts to improve the position. The disparity in wages which still exists between the sheltered and the unsheltered industries is a case in point, and indirectly the costs in the sheltered trades inevitably affect the price at which

Senders of telegrams are informed that, owing to one faulty cable between Hong Kong and Shanghai, telegrams to and from Shanghai and beyond may be subject to eight delay.

Comprising mainly vocal items solo and concerted numbers of old English folk songs, the concert held in the Helena May Institute last evening was much appreciated by a large audience. The soloists were Mrs. Snowden Jones, Mrs. Portallion, Mr. Annes and Mr. Barton, and they all combined well as a quartet for concerted numbers. Piano solos were given by Mr. Shand, whilst Mr. Mason was accompanied to the vocalists.

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TEMPORARY OFFICE :

214, Johnston Road, Hong Kong.

The forthcoming marriages are announced of E. C. O. Bird, of Empress Lodge, Kowloon, and Olive Hubert, of Welbeck Avenue, Southampton; and Halvor Ingmar Erikson, of the Chinese Customs, Samui, to Isabell Lois, also of Samui.

Chan Kau, coxswain of the motor boat Sam Kwok Loung III was this morning charged before Comdr. J. B. Newill, R.N., in the Marine Court, with causing an obstruction at the Shamshui Po ferry wharf at Shamshui Po on January 8. His Worship imposed a fine of \$5.

The representative of Messrs. Toyo Murakami, the famous shirt specialists, of Shanghai, arrived this morning. He will be staying here this time for probably only five days, and will be showing samples at Messrs. Komor & Komor's Art Room, Chater Road.

Another batch of gamblers made an appearance before Mr. Butters in the Kowloon Court this morning and eleven of them had the option of paying \$5 or going to jail for one week. Nineteen absconees had their bail of \$5 each estreated, while two who ran the house were fined \$100 each.

Mr. Butters, sitting with a jury of three at Kowloon yesterday, held an enquiry in regard to the death of a Chinese, Chung Leung-kee, who was arrested on Wednesday in connection with an armed robbery at Shamshui Po, and who was found hanging by the neck in his cell scarcely five hours after being charged at Kowloon City Police Station. A verdict of suicide by hanging was returned.

European Liquor.

LIQUOR & TOBACCO FACE TO FACE WITH STARVATION.

Increases Fixed by Governor.

OPERATIVE FORTHWITH.

Horrors of the Russia of To-day.

TOWER OF BABEL.

Berlin, Dec. 18.

The unspeakable misery caused to the Russian people by the building of the Industrial Tower of Babel prescribed by the Bolshevik Five-Year Plan is once more fully confirmed by a clinching piece of evidence.

In a confidential circular the Association of German Machine Builders states that it would be unsafe for members of this corporation to ask their members to go to Russia at a wage of less than £8 16s. per week.

The Bolsheviks boast mendaciously that their helots receive wages as high as are paid anywhere in Europe. Nominally that may be so, but the purchasing power of the depreciated roubles paid to them is clear from the accounts of German machine builders.

Naturally, these hard-headed business men are not going to give their employees more than is absolutely necessary to induce them to work in Russia.

The confidential circular is based on the reports of five engineer mechanics who have been in Russia supervising the assembling of machinery supplied to the Bolsheviks by their firm.

Their jobs were all in different districts, so that it cannot be pretended that their experiences were accidents of an area specially inaccessible to food supplies.

Fears of the O.G.P.U.

One of these mechanics, according to the evidence of his employer, is a particularly robust man in the prime of life, and left Germany for Russia in perfect health, but returned "absolutely debilitated and unfit for work."

This change caused considerable surprise, because the man had said nothing about privations. In his mailed reports, he explained, however, that "fear of the official OGPU" had prevented him from mentioning the conditions under which he had been compelled to work.

Another of the five reported that the deterioration of the conditions in Russia during the past six months had been "terrifying."

The Russian people, "the least exalted on earth," were going through a period of privation of which even they had never dreamt. Where this mechanic was employed "there was nothing left but black bread, tea and perhaps a little sugar."

In the factory, which employs some hundreds of men, nothing at all was to be bought in the canteen. The dinner served there consisted of potato soup containing a few fragments of vegetables and some very salty fish with grouts. The same menu was repeated for a week on end.

As a result of this regimen the Russians were "no longer able to keep at work even for a few hours at a stretch."

Not Hot Meals.

"Till the end of the month," writes the third of these witnesses, "I did not have a hot meal, nor could I get the materials for one even on the strength of my personal papers. Unpalatable black bread, tea and a little butter, constituted my nourishment the whole time I was there."

A fourth mechanic complained that he never received either meat or sausage, and that a parcel of food sent to him from home did not arrive.

The fifth of these witnesses, who had already visited the same district for his firm, complained of "a gigantic rise in the price of food." When the privileged foreign workmen, whom the Bolsheviks are most anxious to impress with the beauty of their arrangements, are treated like this, it is not difficult to imagine how hard must be the lot of the native toller at the Tower of Babel.

Ten Years Ago.

[From the "China Mail" of February 20, 1921.]

To-day's dollar is worth 2/5 3/8.

* * *

On the occasion of the Boy Scouts rally held on January 8 last, a cable was sent home to Sir R. Baden Powell, congratulating him on his recent promotion to a baronetcy by His Majesty the King. The following reply has now been received, by postcard:—H.M.S. Ark Royal en route for India. Thank you most sincerely for your very kind congratulations on our good fortune.—Robert Baden Powell.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY WORK.

Nearly \$3,000 More for Relief.

APPEAL TO CONSULS.

The 41st annual meeting of the Benevolent Society was held in the City Hall this morning, under the chairmanship of Mr. P. S. Cassidy.

Mrs. Helen McCormack, Hon. Secretary, read the report for 1930, which referred to the endeavour to discourage the beggarly type of applicants for relief, who are not in real distress. In this connection the Society appeals to the various Consuls for assistance in investigating the cases of their nationals.

During the year under review 708 visits were paid to the City Hall as against 403 in the previous year, and \$5,947.09 was paid out in relief as against \$3,041.16 in 1929. There were 78 new cases as compared with 60 in 1929.

There had also been an increase in requests for assistance, although the amount which was spent in 1930 for this purpose shows a decrease of \$16.30 on the 1929 figure and seems to contradict this. In this connection the Society is indebted to the Directors of the Diocesan Boys' School, Diocesan Girls' School, Canossian Institute, St. Joseph's College, and St. Francis School for accepting reduced fees.

Rent and Passages. The amount spent in rent, etc., for destitute was \$1,342.17 in 1930 as against \$778.25 in 1929. Only \$954.36 was required for passages as against \$3,145.31 in 1929. This was because in most cases only short journeys were called for, or else the expense was shared by other societies. Medical fees, etc., show an increase of \$15.30. A special fund was collected for Christmas boxes for the children cured for by the



Fiancee (to burglar lover): "What's this? I goes to do a bit o' window slashing with yer engagement ring—and it don't cut glass."—*Passing Show*, London.

Society. The Society is most grateful to the Government for increased grant.

Mr. Cassidy said that he had taken an interest in the Society for many years, but more closely during the past two years when he was able to see for himself something of the work which went on behind the scenes, and the sympathetic manner in which that work was undertaken. The Colony was very fortunate to have so many ladies willing to undertake the responsibility.

More Public Support Required.

This work was not done in the limelight but it was good work. The Society had an opportunity to beat its drums and cymbals only once a year, at the annual meeting, and he had no doubt that when the public read the report they would get a glimpse of the work that was being done, and he hoped that they would come forward with their cheques for \$12—the amount of an annual subscription. It was not a big amount but it was useful for the Society, and if the public would only realise what could be done by the Society if they received more support their \$12 would be forthcoming. At present the Society was unable to give adequate help because of lack of funds. Appeals for relief, he mentioned, were increasing and, therefore, he hoped for the fullest support of the public during the current year.

In its report upon minor field crops in the province, the Manitoba Department of Agriculture says: "Sweet clover has shown the most spectacular increase in acreage during the years of any of the minor field crops. The growth has been from 94,841 acres in 1924 to 238,400 acres in 1930. Other estimated acreages are: Fodder corn, 14,000; Sunflowers, 8,183; Peas, 2,263; Buckwheat, 2,924; Mixed grains, 14,500; Potatoes, 51,700; Marigolds, 908; Sugar beets, 857; Turnips, 1,561; Other roots, 1,360; Clover other than sweet clover, 8,500; Timothy, 82,900; Bromegrass, 102,200; Rye Grass, 9,300; and Alfalfa, 12,260."

SALVATION ARMY'S WINDFALL.

£200,000 Bequest of Brass Founder.

Mr. John Bromilow Holt, of Heywood, Lancashire, a brass and aluminium founder, left estate of his gross value of £219,707, with his personally £216,349.

After requests amounting to less than £20,000, he gave all his property to the Salvation Army for its social and emigration work.

Colonel R. B. Chapman, a secretary at the headquarters of the Salvation Army, said in an interview that he could not remember so large a bequest having been made to the Army before in Great Britain.

"So far," said Col. Chapman, "we have only received official notification of the terms of the will. It is by no means certain the Army will receive anything approaching £200,000 after all the legacies and heavy death duties have been paid."

Aiding Social Work.

The bequest will, Col. Chapman added, prove an immense boon to the Army's social work, which is languishing for lack of funds.

The extension of the Mothers' Hospital in Hackney, for instance, for which we need £30,000, is one item which will probably benefit," he explained. "Another object is the establishing of a Women's Shelter to accommodate 300 women in Hanbury Street, Whitechapel, which requires about the same amount.

"We have acquired the property, but have no money for the building. There are also several new hostels required, both in London and the provinces, in districts where the General has wanted to meet the needs of the poor for a long time.

If no conditions are attached to the legacy some of the money, said the colonel, would undoubtedly be devoted to the soup-kitchens and free food distribution areas of Wales, and other parts of the country needing urgent help. The poor of the district in which the testator lived would also not be forgotten.

Mr. Holt's other gifts to charities included:

£1,000 to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

£1,000 to the Bury Infirmary.

£1,000 to St. Dunstan's Hospital.

£1,000 to the N.S.P.C.C.

£750 to the R.S.P.C.A.

£750 to Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

£750 to Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples' Hospital.

£250 to the Heywood Crippled Children's and Holiday Home, Congleton.

£250 to the Heywood Mission Christian Society.

BAD OLD YEAR.

STUPID, UNDISTINGUISHED AND DEPRESSING.

New York, Jan. 2.

Nobody has a good word to say for the old year which newspapers agree in describing as "one of the most stupid, most undistinguished and most depressing" in post-War history. Even as regards the weather it has established a record for too much rain, too little sunshine and appropriately closed with December month of practically continuous fog and gloom.

Hence it is not surprising to find an unusual note of optimism in anticipation of what 1931 (the first year of the new decade) will bring forth. The New Year messages of politicians glow with cheerful expectation. Mr. MacDonald, who declares that never before in the world's history has there been such a tragic demonstration as 1930 of a breakdown of the machinery of capitalism, describes himself as an optimist but says the realisation of his hopes for more comfort and happiness depends on the strength and determination of the Labour movement that Labour shall continue to control the country's international and domestic policy.

Mr. Baldwin expresses confidence in the early return of Conservatives to power, in spite of the Liberal plot to keep the Socialists in power, and promises immediately to introduce an emergency for the protection of manufacturers.

Mr. Lloyd George says: Liberalism... for going under, is gathering strength. It is the only party with a practical programme and Liberals have reason to be of good heart next year.

Mr. MacDonald, at last had a good omen for the new year. It is known that it is general superstition in the north that the first person to cross the threshold on New Year's morning should be either a dark man or a fair lady. In Downing Street on New Year's eve the Prime Minister was entertained by a few friends when a note was handed to him two minutes after midnight saying that dark Mr. MacDonald wished to see him. Mr. MacDonald asked the visitor to leave him in and the Maharaja of Alwar entered the room.

GANDHI'S MEETING WITH VICEROY.

Lord Irwin to Obtain Home Opinion.

NO PROPOSALS MADE.

New Delhi, Yesterday. Mahatma Gandhi had a further interview with the Viceroy today, after which Gandhi held important discussions with members of the Congress Working Committee.

It is thought in political circles that the pourparlers between the Viceroy and Gandhi should be suspended for a few days to enable Lord Irwin to obtain opinion from London.

Gandhi has denied the rumour that Lord Irwin submitted counter-proposals, and said that there had been no proposals or counter-proposals.—Reuter.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME.

Charlie Chaplin Visits His Birthplace.

BOYHOOD FRIENDS.

Rugby, Yesterday. Thousands of people thronged the approaches to Paddington Station, London, this afternoon and accorded Charlie Chaplin a great welcome. In the forefront of the crowd were several of the famous film star's companions of boyhood. He greeted them warmly and assured them that he would make an early visit to his birthplace at Lambeth.—British Wireless Service.

FORD'S NEW POLICY.

FIVE DAYS WEEK NOW INTRODUCED.

New York, Yesterday. Wall Street brokers cheered the report that the Ford Motor Company had introduced a five days week after running a three days week for two months.—Reuter's American Service.

DUMPED GOODS.

LEAGUE COMMITTEE TO MAKE ENQUIRY.

Rugby, Yesterday. A Geneva message stated that the Economic Committee of the League of Nations has appointed a sub-Committee to examine the dumping question.—British Wireless Service.

WATCH ON EXTREMISTS.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN BULGARIA.

A great revival of activity on the part of the Comintern has been noticed recently in Bulgaria. Recently the Sofia Court had before it a group of 17 young Communists arrested for organising a Soviet conspiracy. The prisoners maintained a provocative attitude towards the judges and received severe sentences. Later the police discovered another subversive organisation, and 30 Communists, including the advocates Gheorghieff and Kostoff, were arrested.

The death is announced in Berlin of the notorious Bolshevik terrorist Abjieff, who was the chief perpetrator of the outrage in Sofia Cathedral in 1925. Abjieff, who escaped at the time to Moscow, left there recently for Bulgaria, where he was to organise another conspiracy, but fell ill while passing through Berlin and did not recover.

In view of these indications of subversive activity the police have redoubled their watch on extremists.

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SHADOWS BEFORE.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN CHINA MAIL.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

To-day—Tea Dance and Dinner Dance at Hong Kong Hotel.

To-night—Dinner to British Economic Mission, Kam Ling Restaurant.

To-morrow—Concert and Dance at May Hall, University.

To-morrow—Football Interport Dinner, Peninsula Hotel, 8 p.m.

Sunday—Tea Dance at Repulse Bay Hotel.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

Toddy—Queen's Theatre.

"Way Out West"—Theatre.

To-day—Central Theatre.

"Big Pond"—Theatre.

To-day—Majestic Theatre;

"Paris"—Theatre.

To-day—Star Theatre.

"Jim The Conqueror"—Theatre.

To-day—World Theatre.

"The Fortune-teller's Daughter" (Chinese picture).

Lammetts' Auction.

To-morrow—At Sales Room, Duddell St., miscellaneous goods, 11 a.m.

HOME MAILS.

To-day—Outward for Europe via Marselles (Tsukiji Maru), 6 p.m.

To-morrow—Inward from Europe via Nagapatam (Fushimi Maru); from America and ports (President Monroe); Outward for Europe via Siberia (Fushimi Maru and Somail), 3.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. respectively.

SPORTS.

See Diary of Race 0.

MEETINGS.

To-morrow—Meeting of the Bank of East Asia, 3 p.m.

March 5—Annual meeting of H.K. Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., Queen's Building, 11 a.m.

ENGLISH LESSONS.

YOUNG Chinese Lady, educated in America, desires position as teacher of English in Schools, or as private tutor.—Box No. 681, c/o "China Mail."

TUITION.

YOUNG Chinese Lady, educated in America, desires position as teacher of English in Schools, or as private tutor.—Box No. 681, c/o "China Mail."

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YOUNG Chinese Lady, educated in America, desires position as teacher of English in Schools, or as private tutor.—Box No. 681, c/o "China Mail."

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received

Instructions to sell by Public Auction

ON

SATURDAY, February 21, 1931,

commencing at 11 a.m.

at their Sales Room,

4, Duddell Street,

1 Case Glass Ware

1 Case Hard Ware

1 Case Raisins

1 Case Hollow Goods

1 Camera

2 Field Glasses

and

A Quantity of

Old Clothings and Trunks, etc.

TERMS:—Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,

Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, February 20, 1931.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC, LONDON.

LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

18th JUNE, 1931.

The Last Day of Entry for

Forthcoming Examinations in

THEORY & PRACTICE will

be 10th March, 1931. Entry

Forms may be obtained from the

Local Secretary.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

INWARD MAIIS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20.
Parcels only (London January 15) & Straits Eurnaeus.
Japan, Shanghai and Europe via Siberia
(London Feb. 3) Vasukuni Maru

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21.
Shanghai and Swatow Sui Yang
Straits Somali!
Europe via Negapatam (Letters and Papers)
London, Jan. 22) Fushimi Maru

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco, Jan. 23) President Monroe

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22.
Dairen and Amoy Tjimanoek

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23.
Canada, U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 31) Empress of Russia

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco, Jan. 30) President Lincoln

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24.
Japan Kawachi Maru

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26.
Japan Tander.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4.
Australia and Manila St. Albans.

OUTWARD MAIIS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20.
Samshui & Wuchow Kongso 4 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius,
E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt &
Europe via Marseilles Yasukuni Maru
(Due Marseilles, March 19)
G.P.O.
Registration, Feb. 20, 4.30 p.m.
Letter Sat., Feb. 21 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21.
Japan and *Victoria, B.C. Protosilus 10.30 a.m.
(Due Victoria, B.C., Feb. 17).
Sandakan Ilan Sang 1.30 p.m.
Shanghai and *Europe via Siberia
Shanghai, Japan and *Europe via
Siberia Fushimi Maru 3.30 p.m.
Somali 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22.
Swatow, Amoy and Formosa Hozan Maru 9 a.m.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23.
President Grant
(Due San Francisco, Mar. 18.)
Parcels Feb. 23, 3 p.m.
Registration 4.15 p.m.
Letters 5 p.m.

*Shanghai, Japan, Canada, U.S.A.,
C. & S. America and *Europe
via Victoria, B.C. Helan Maru
(Due Victoria, B.C., Mar. 16.)
Registration, Feb. 23, 4.15 p.m.
Letters 5 p.m.

Shanghai and *Europe via Siberia
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24.
Java via Batavia Tjimanoek 10.30 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow Haiching 1 p.m.
Swatow Yat Shing 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25.
Straits, E. Africa via Mombasa &
S. Africa via Lourenco Marques
and *S. America ports Kawachi Maru 1.30 p.m.
Bangkok Kalagan 2.30 p.m.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26.
Hohow, Pakhoi & Haiphong Klung Chow 10.30 a.m.
Amoy Tai Yuan 3.30 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow Hai Ning 2 p.m.

*Superscribed correspondence only.

WATER RETURN.

The level and storage of water in our reservoirs on February 1, 1931, is as under:

	1930	1931
Tytan	12' 5" B	25' 3" B
Tytan Eyewash	26' 1" B	28' 3" B
Tytan Intermediate	19' 1" B	0' 6" B
Tytan Tuk	37' 3" B	29' 0" B
Wong Nel Chung	22' 1" B	21' 5" B
Poldulum	14' 8" B	18' 8" B
[Note: B. denotes "Below Overflow"; L. denotes "Level with Overflow".]		
Storage in millions and decimals of gallons.	1930	1931
Tytan	286.00	203.27
Tytan Eyewash	42	42
Tytan Intermediate	101.15	123.08
Tytan Tuk	670.01	808.00
Wong Nel Chung	847	890
Poldulum	34.63	26.94
Total	1,101.87	1,249.19
Consumption of water in City and Hill District in millions and decimals of gallons during the month of December.	1930	1931
Estimated population	439,440	449,763
Consumption per head per day	15.5	17.7
January, 1930.—From January 1 to 28 a 12 hours of supply (6 a.m.-6 p.m.) was given to all Elder Main Districts. Principal Mains closed (6 p.m.-6 a.m.) and from January 22 to January 31, 1931, 33.	1930	1931

ISLAND HERMIT.

OWNER REFUSES TO SELL TO GOVERNMENT.

The Swedish Navy, already the owner of a number of islands of various sizes in the Stockholm archipelago, recently wanted to buy some further islands for naval purposes, but encountered an unexpected obstacle. One small island could not be bought since its owner, who lives a hermit life within its coasts, refused to sell. The matter has been referred to the Swedish Government.

The singular islander lives on the produce of his primitive garden and on fish. His beard and hair have grown enormously, but nevertheless he keeps himself and his dwelling scrupulously clean, and is quite friendly with his neighbours on the adjacent islands.

For some ten years this hermit, who is actuated by no religious motive, has persisted in his isolation.

The owner, who will probably have to leave his island, is something of an eccentric. He previously lived like an ordinary Stockholm citizen, carrying on his daily work of an office clerk until he reached fifty years of age. Then, having collected some money, he suddenly resigned, bought the rocky little island and settled down there. He built himself a primitive hut, which scarce-

SAN MARINO AS AN ASYLUM.
MYSTERY TRAMP SPY.

Mother Who Wants to Keep Her Daughter

The tiny Republic of San Marino is beleaguered by Italian carabinieri—and the cause of the strange state of affairs is a little Milanese girl of ten summers and her mother, the Marchesa Brambilla, who have taken asylum in the hill-top Republic, where they defy those who would put into execution an order issued by an Italian court of law.

As the result of a conjugal quarrel and separation the husband of the Marchesa sued her and obtained in the Milan law courts an order to take his daughter from her mother and have the total guardianship of the child.

Before the legal machinery for the execution of this finding could be put into operation mother and child acted on the original idea of repeating Garibaldi's successful experiment—they sought and found sanctuary in the Republic which still preserves its ancient independent rights in the midst of the kingdom of Italy.

"International" Position.

The legal authorities of both Kingdom and Republic are at present thrashing out the "international" legal position, but meanwhile San Marino refuses to accede to the attempts being made by the foiled husband to enforce the extradition of his wife and child.

The Italian carabinieri have not entered the confines of the Republic, but they are picketed at all points of escape or exit, and the police of San Marino are also unusually vigilant. The Italian forces, however, are carrying out the double role of protection and aggression. With the San Marino police they are guarding against any attempt to kidnap the child, as has been threatened. At the same time the Italian police are ready to arrest the Marchesa should she happen to set foot or be allowed beyond the confines of the Republic.

Pending the exhaustion of all legal appeals neither of the two Governments has so far officially intervened, and an "international incident" has so far been avoided, but San Marino is in a state of tension.

All strangers entering the town—especially if they happen to look like wicked uncles—are carefully shadowed in case they have come to smuggle out the refugees and all people on foot and in cars, as soon as they leave the town frontier gates, are confronted by carabinieri with demands of proof of identity, while departing strangers accompanied by children are astonished to be asked severely of each of them, "Whose is the child?"

EXCHANGES.
TO-DAY'S QUOTATIONS.

On London—
Bank, wire 10%
Bank, on demand 10%
Bank, 4 months' sight 10 1/2%
Credits, 4 months' sight 11 9/16
Documentary, 4 months' sight 11 11/16
On Paris—
On demand 560
Credits, 4 months' sight 600

On New York—
On demand 22
Credits, 60 days, sight 23 1/2%

On Bombay—
Wire 61 1/2%
On demand 61 1/2%

On Calcutta—
Wire 61 1/2%
On demand 61 1/2%

On Singapore—
On demand 39 1/2%
On Manila—
On demand 44 1/2%
On Shanghai—
On demand 71 7/8%
Dollar 4 1/2% dis.

On Yokohama—
On demand 44 1/2%
Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate) 11 1/2%
Silver (per oz.) 12 7/16

Bar Silver in Hong Kong Nominal Copper Cash Nominal Copper Cents 3% prem. Rate of Native Interest 3 1/2% p.a. Chinese Sub. Coin 2 1/2% dis. Hong Kong Sub. Coin Par

LONDON EXCHANGES
Rugby, Yesterday.
Paris 123.91 1/2
New York 4.85 7/16
Brussels 34.84 1/2
Geneva 25.18
Amsterdam 12.10 1/4
Milan 92.02 1/2
Berlin 20.43 1/2
Stockholm 18.14 1/2
Copenhagen 18.16 1/2
Oslo 18.16 1/2
Vienna 34.57 1/2
Prague 164 1/2
Helsingfors 193
Madrid 47.35
Lisbon 102.25
Athena 375
Bucharest 817
Rio 4.7/32
Buenos Aires 3614
Montevideo 34 1/2%
Bombay 1/6 1/2%
Shanghai 1/1%
Hong Kong 1034
Yokohama 2/0 13/32
Silver (spot) 12.7/16
Silver (forward) 12.5/16
—British Wireless Service

BRAVE RESCUE ATTEMPT.

Policeman Loses Life in Blazing House.

Police-Sergeant Little lost his life at Seaham Harbour in an attempt to rescue Miss Mary Watson, aged 63, from a burning house in Vane Terrace.

He entered the smoke-filled bedroom, but when the fireman arrived a few minutes later they had to burst open the door, and Sergeant Little and Miss Watson were found dead.

It appeared that the officer had collapsed while carrying Miss Watson, and had knocked over a chair which wedged the door.

MORE FORCED LABOUR.

Amendments to Russia's Criminal Code.

Various amendments to the Criminal Code of Russia Proper will be submitted to the All-Russian Central Executive Committee (Vtik) in session in Moscow, according to a statement in Izvestia.

In the case of minor crimes a sentence of forced labour will take the place of simple imprisonment. Solitary confinement will be altogether discontinued and a new measure of social defence—namely, confinement in correctional labour camps in distant districts of the U.S.S.R.—will take its place.

"Measures of social defence" against kulaki (well-to-do peasants) in the villages and non-tolling elements in the towns for arrears in the payment of taxes and social insurance will be tightened up.

A special clause is inserted introducing punishments for pre-meditated and wanton slaughter of cattle, or incitement to such slaughter with a view to undermining or hampering collective farming.

M. A. Gibson, provincial diary commissioner, states that since 1915 nearly \$20,000,000 worth of creamery butter has been shipped out of Manitoba, the peak being reached in 1925 when 260 carloads, valued at \$2,007,600 were shipped. This year 60 carloads have been shipped to the Toronto market where Manitoba creamery butter commanded a premium over the local product.

HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE

Opening Daily Official Quotations 20th Feb., 1931.

STOCK	Buyers	Sellers	Sales	Nom.	Per cent.	Last dividend and when paid
Banks.						
Hong Kong Bank	\$	...	2200	...	Dec. 1 (Final 21 bonus 1/4 at 1000 ex. 1/11-1/14)	Pending
Chartered Bank	4	...	101	...	Dec. Interim 7/- free I.Tax/10/32	Sep. — 80
Mercantile Bk., Ad. C. L.	...	...	231	...	Dec. (Int. 2%) 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax	Sep. — 80
Bank of Asia	122	...	...	...	Dec. 8/- for 1930	Pending
Insurances.						
Canal Ins.	\$	...	1310	...	Dec. (Final 2%) 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax/10/32	May 16, 80
Union Ins.	\$	145	...	...	Dec. (Final 1%) 1/4 at 1000	May 30, 80
*China Underwriters	\$	360	...	...	Dec. None	...
China Fire Ins.	\$	525	...	...	Dec. (Final 2%) 1/4 at 1000	May 30, 80
H. K. Fire Ins.	\$	1810	...	...	Dec. 4/- for 1930	Mar. 16, 80
Shipping.						
Douglas	\$	38	...	...	Dec. Last dividend for 1921	...
H. K. Steamboat	\$	27	...	...	Dec. \$1.50 for 1920	Mar. 4, 80
Indo-China (Pref.)	\$	10	...	...	Dec. (Int. 2%) 1/4 at 1000	June 19, 80
(Def.)	\$	80	...	...	Dec. Last dividend for 1921	...
Shell Transport	\$	78/14	...	...	Dec. (Int. 2%) 1/4 at 1000	Jan. 8, 81
Union Waterboat	\$	87	...	...	Dec. \$1.50 for 1920	Mar. 10, 80
Mining.						
Benguet	\$	101	...	...	Dec. (Final 40 cents) 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax/10/32	Dec. 20, 80
Kailan Mining Ad.	\$	38/6	...	...	Dec. (Final 15% free I.Tax. Op. in 1930) 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax/10/32	Dec. 20, 80
Langkat	\$	81	...	...	Dec. 1.5/- for year 31-32	May 8, 80
S'hai Explosion	\$	24	...	...	Dec. None	...
Loans	\$	40	...	...	Dec. (Final 2%) 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax/10/32	Feb. 8, 81
Rauba	\$	40	...	...	Dec. (Second Int. 1/4 at 1000 less I.Tax/10/32)	Dec. 18, 80
Venezuela Gold Fields	\$	3.60	...	...	Dec. None	...
Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.						
H. K. & W. Wharves	\$	171	Dec. 8/- for 1930	Mar. 13, 80
H. K. & W. Docks	\$	301	Dec. Last dividend for 1921	...
South Ch. Motors	\$	10	...</td			

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NEW ALPHABET
FOUND.Script of a Semitic
Language.

BELONGING TO 1300 B.C.

Recent excavations at Ras Shamra, where, last year, tablets bearing cuneiform inscriptions of a character new to epigraphists were discovered, have brought to light the interesting fact that a purely alphabetic script was being applied to a Semitic language in about the thirteenth century before Christ. The new inscriptions are written in a much simplified form of the cuneiform script, which reduces its hundreds of syllabic signs to twenty-eight alphabetical letters.

While, therefore, as Mr. C. J. Gadd, assistant keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities in the British Museum, pointed out recently, says the Observer, the new discovery does not in itself prove that the Phoenician alphabet from which the Greek, and hence our own alphabet, was directly formed, was in use in the thirteenth century. It does show that the alphabetic idea had then been discovered, and renders it by so much the more likely that the Phoenician alphabet itself may have been already invented, as the finders of the Ahriram sarcophagus supposed.

In the following article on New Alphabets, Professor Ellis H. Minns, Disney Professor of Archaeology in Cambridge University, comments on these past discoveries and their significance, and speaks of the further hopes the finding of the new inscriptions opens up.

The Alphabet Puzzle.

It is always a mystery why people do crossword puzzles. In them we are at the mercy of a man who is setting us traps, and the unfair thing is that if he makes a mistake in the manner of his setting it is we that suffer by the puzzle becoming more difficult. It is quite different when we have to deal with writings which were meant to be plain, but of which we have lost the key. Of course there are mistakes or gaps in these which give a great deal of trouble, but as the thing is not an elaborate trap we can forgive the mistakes.

And we have no end to our problems. They were not ended by the great triumphs of the last century, the decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphics and the still more wonderful decipherment of cuneiform—still more wonderful because it was done without a bilingual, merely by guessing at the names of the Persian kings, and then the language turned out to be old Persian. At once it gave the key to Babylonian, a Semitic language, and this to Elamite and Vannic, more mysterious as languages, but as the decipherers had plenty to go upon.

Queer Scripts of China.

The next advance was in Central and Eastern Asia. There are queer scripts on the edges of China, Lolo and Moso in the south-west, and formerly Tangut in the north-west. The first two are still used, but no European has learned them. The users of the latter were wiped out by Chingiz Khan, but one or two people can read their writing (Professor Pallot, in Paris, and Mr. Ivanov, in Leningrad).

Upper Asia was the next region: "Thomson's interpretation without a proper bilingual of the inscriptions of the Early Turks in Mongolia, deserves to rank with the first steps in cuneiform. The many languages discovered in Eastern Turkestan were all written in Indian scripts, and contained large portions of the Buddhist Canon. That was a great help, though the combination of learning that had to be concentrated upon them, was truly astounding—Sanskrit and Iranian, Turkish and Chinese.

Next the scene of conflict shifted to Asia Minor; of the seven languages used in the Hittite capital, Bogaz Koi, some were known, others new, but with resemblances to such familiar tongues as Latin, others like nothing on earth except perhaps the proverbially impossible Caucasian groups. But the hieroglyphics of Hittite, like those of Minoan Crete, still baffle us completely.

Genesis of Our Own Alphabet.

But all these things, to say nothing of Maya in America, are in a sense out of the way. We are not tempted to see in them any true connection with our own alphabet. If anything will throw light on its genesis it will come home to us much more nearly.

Dr. Alan Gardner's interpretation of certain signs carved near Sinai mines was most exciting. We seemed really on the track of the ancestor of the Phoenician alphabet; but further progress in this has been disappointing. It is in the region near the north-east corner of the Mediterranean that we ought to find the clue, and the

clues have not been fitting on to the Sinaean trail.

The first event was the finding in 1925 of the sarcophagus of Ahriram, King of Byblos, the Gehal of the Old Testament. This showed us the Phoenician alphabet in the thirteenth century, five hundred years older than the Stele of Mesha, King of Moab, which had stood first for fifty years; and the alphabet, though queer, was complete.

Last year, again at Byblos, was found what seems to be a mixture of ideograms and phonetic symbols. We cannot yet read it, but it appears to belong to a stage when men could not trust themselves to expressing the sound alone, but must add the picture to make assurance sure, or used traditional pictures for certain words.

Every different proportion of sound and picture comes in writings like Egyptian, Babylonian, or Japanese. But we may have a forerunner of the alphabet, not more than a century older than Ahiram.

The Latest Find.

The latest find from Ras Shamra and its harbour, Minet-el-Bedda, eight miles north of Latakia, on the Syrian coast, is the most surprising. Many tablets and inscriptions have been discovered with signs made up of the familiar cuneiform strokes, but the signs only number twenty-eight, so it is evident that we have to do with an alphabet.

The Persians likewise constructed an alphabet of cuneiform strokes, but this had more than forty letters, including therein vowels. True Semites, the men of Ras Shamra, only expressed consonants; but an alphabet gives hope to the interpreter (as we saw in the cases of Persian and early Turk), and the key has been found. Five bronze picks bore the same inscription, save that one had one word of four letters prefixed to it.

Professor Buaer, of Halle, saw that this must be the Hebrew Gailez, used on the inscription of Hezekiah's workers when they cut the tunnel leading to the Pool of Siloam and met each other "Pick to Pick, garzen el garzen." It did not take much more search to get out Rab Kohenim, "chief of the priests," familiar words we have still in Rabbi and the Jewish name Cohen. The alphabet must have been a conscious invention, arising among other equally conscious attempts, and superseded by one more suitable for other materials than clay.

An Epic Poem.

This year's discoveries have added a dictionary and an epic poem, and there may be quite a literature, perhaps the works of Sanchoniathon, the Phenician poet, of whom the Greeks speak, and in whom the nineteenth century did not believe. He lived about the fourteenth century B.C., and this is about the date to which the prosperity of Sapuna may be referred. The name Sapuna has been recovered from the tablets and occurs in Assyrian records. It seems to have been destroyed about the time of the great movement of the "Peoples of the Sea."

But the discoveries open up further hopes. The civilisation of Sapuna is strongly marked by Mycenaean elements; it seems to have been an entrepot for trade between the Aegean by Cyprus with hither Asia. May we hope that it will yield the bilingual which shall interpret for us the records of Grossos?

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INVICTIVE AGAINST
AMERICA.Sinclair Lewis Lets
Loose a Broadside.

New York, Jan. 14. Sinclair "Red" Lewis, of "Main Street," "Babbitt" and other great American gargoyles, burst loose with a broadside in Stockholm while being crowned King of American literature, says the Associated Press.

The general feeling on the part of literateurs here was that Mr. Lewis' invective against the cultural institutions of this country was hardly worth noticing.

Members of the American academy of arts and letters, notable among the home grown institutions side-swiped by Mr. Lewis, denied any desire to comment on the rather dusty and priggish character for which the currently celebrated Nobel author cast them. Their voices had a far away tone.

Some of them gave the impression that the name of Sinclair Lewis had a distinctly foreign sound, a sound they faintly recalled having heard somewhere or other. One member implied he knew Mr. Lewis all too well, so well in fact that he "wouldn't touch him with a ten-foot pole."

The general impression from a roll call of as many members of the academy as could be reached was that for all this clearing house of American culture cared, Mr. Lewis might remain in Stockholm indefinitely and go on inveighing against anything that pleased him to inveigh against.

George Jean Nathan, author and critic, took a different view, however. He does not think this sort of literary babbity should go unanswered.

"The lamentation so often vented by incompetent and disgruntled craftsmen," says Mr. Nathan, "that the United States treats artists badly is hardly borne out by the noticeable affluence of most of them, by the exaggerated amount of attention they get from the public Press, and by the abundance of invitations, they receive to dinners, banquets, women's club teas, cinema openings, lecture platforms, blindfold tests for cigarettes and booze parties on ocean liners.

"I have grave doubts that in any other country in the world is a meritorious artist so rewarded and petted as he is in this one, and I entertain even graver doubts that he would not be much better off if well-intentioned doctes would leave him alone, allow him to keep his mind solely on his work, and so permit him to function in peace and quiet to his greater glory."

"The United States not only does not disdain its artists, it goes to such extremes in coddling them both in the way of personal attention and in financial reward that it often well nigh ruins them."

"The American artist's chief neglect is not at the hands of what may be called, the average Americans of wealth, Americans conspicuous in public affairs, Americans of position in what is dubbed society and Americans who might be presumed, however erroneously to have some breeding, discrimination and taste."

STANDARD TIMES.

Sunrise and Sunset in
Colony.

Sunrise and Sunset in Hong Kong for February 1931, (Standard time of the 120th Meridian, East of Greenwich) are as follows:

Feb.	Sunrise	Sunset

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TALKIE TALKS

by
Diana

"The Big Pond" in the Central Theatre with the incomparable Maurice Chevalier, and Claudette Colbert, who played also together in the French version. Not the Chevalier of "The Love Parade," but if you care to see your favourite in overalls, chewing gum and using American slang, then you must go. Anyway, it is something different from his usual, and it has its moments. There is no questioning the Chevalier charm. The story? An American girl, while abroad, falls in love with a Frenchman. Her father, hoping to cure her, brings the Parisian back to America and puts him to work in his gun factory. But the foreigner makes good, and they finish with the honeymoon. Quite human and consistently amusing.

Claudette Colbert, also another importation from France, does her best with the part opposite the star. I had the pleasure of meeting her when she was on her world tour with her husband, Norman Foster. They did one Talkie together, "Young Man of Manhattan." Claudette was born in Paris, but has lived in America since 1913. Amongst her earliest efforts on the stage was in support of Lowell Sherman, delightful both on the stage, Talkies, and now as Director, and at present the husband of Helene Costello. Miss Colbert has made a big success on Broadway, aim of all theatrical folk. Went to London in "The Barker" with James Kirkwood and Norman Foster, who married her in the play, so they did so off stage, too. By-the-by, I wish we could have that Talkie here. Milton Sills, Douglas Fairbanks Jun., and Dorothy Mackall—fine show. Miss Colbert is now back at work on the Paramount lot in New York.

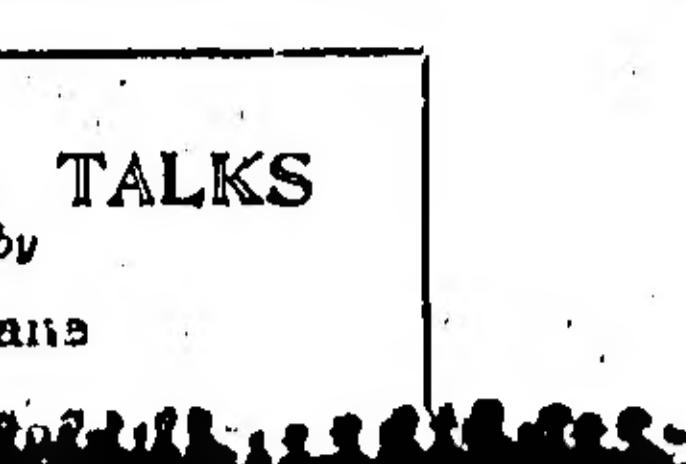
Chevalier has but recently returned from his tour of Britain and France. I am at a loss to know why "The Love Parade" was not chosen as the winner for 1930. Wherever it was played it was riot, and no matter what our nationality we became rabid Chevalier "fans". In Paris he first achieved fame, now the world acclaimed him. The Great War took him away from his work. He earned the Military Cross, was gassed, became a prisoner of war in a German camp, learned his English from fellow-British prisoners. Became the rage in Paris when he returned to his vaudeville work. Took New York by storm with his one-man show. Like Al Jolson, he holds the audience in the hollow of his hand, for just as long as he likes to entertain—truly an achievement. His first picture, "The Innocents of Paris," gave an inkling of what to expect, then came the winner; "The Love Parade." Married his dancing partner Yvonne Vallee, who plays opposite him in the French version of his latest; "Playboy of Paris."

Maurice thinks that variety is the keynote for success in the entertainment world. That is why he likes to change his material and make each character different from the other. He will not sing two songs in the same production that are similar in type. In "The Big Pond" one is a love song, one a comedy number, and the other for the little child. No artiste on the screen to-day has so taken the hearts of the people as Maurice. His spontaneous wit, his boyish manner, personality, talent and smile. Little Elaine Kotch makes an appealing maid-of-all-work. The rest of the cast up to standard. (Central).

William Haines in "Way Out West," supported by Leila Hyams, Polly Moran, and Cliff Edwards. I do not say it is Haines at his best. The story amuses. He is a barker at a side-show, becomes a cowboy and is very "Hainesish," and that can be very attractive. Recommended. (Queen's).

"True to the Navy," Clara Bow as a per-maiden in a soda fountain. She cries and sings, and seems to be the hope of the whole Pacific Fleet. Story very reminiscent of "The Fleet's In." Fredric March wins the girl. Others pop up at intervals. The story not worthy of the fascinating red-head, but after all it is Clara, and it will please those who love her anyhow. (Central).

John McCormick in "Song of My Heart," delighted everyone. There was a contest held by one of the Picture Play magazines for a choice of his most popular numbers, and "Little Blue Boy" and "I Hear You Calling Me," won. I did like the easy nonchalant manner adopted by John. He did not attempt to act, and How he sang! A word for the accompanist, too, in praise. Alfie Joyce's sweet idyllic that called for no acting. Maureen O'Sullivan did not make the grade. I am glad to read that she considers the peasants of Ireland only



have the brogue; she was educated in London and Paris, and is the daughter of a Major. The small boy was true to type and natural. Farrel Macdonald and Kerrigan both pleased.

John Garrick had nothing much to do. He was born in Brighton, and his real name is Reginald Dandy. Played the leading part in "Rosy Marie" in Australia. Recently married his co-star, a San Francisco girl. Name changed by Fox because it is too like Reginald Denny. Maureen, who wants us to forget she is truly Irish, is much improved young woman these days: Fox took her in hand, straightened her teeth, dressed her like a million dollars, coached her in acting, and pushed her for all they are worth.

She is now heading for the stellar position, but whether she will justify it remains to be proved. She is just one of the lucky Irish—there are not many.

John McCormack is amongst the new, and hard work, faith, plus the most perfect tenor voice, and the wisdom to sing the songs that appeal to the masses has enabled him to accumulate the largest fortune of any concert singer of all time. A magnificent castle in Ireland, apartment in New York, and now he has "Gone California," and his estate there is truly magnificent.

His wife, an Irish girl whom he married in the days when he was a struggling beginner, is still his best critic. One daughter only. His hobby is art collecting, and his treasures are worth a million. I am glad Hong Kong people liked his first Talkie. It has been a big success all over the world. (Queen's).

The Central Theatre announces that they have procured "The King of Jazz." It is one of the best entertainments that has yet been produced. Who is better than Paul Whiteman? Hear "The Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin, played magnificently and dramatized with striking originality. All the Universal stars flitting across the screen. John Boles singing better than usual, Jeanette Loft, Laura La Plante, Kathryn Crawford, Sister G. some good, some indifferent, but all lending colour to a super-production. All technicalities, and staged by a man who knew his work thoroughly, John Murray Anderson, although this was his first effort for the Talkies. Novelty, comedy and beauty. (Central).

* * *

Norma Shearer in "Let Us Be Gay." I wonder if this charming clever actress has ever known a failure. This young Canadian girl is worth studying. She made a fetish of ambition. She had a goal and she held to it. She confesses that when she wanted a thing, everything and every one had to make way for her. She was ruthless. She had no other creed, but self; she was ferociously ambitious. Egotistical to a degree. But it was just the natural hardness of ambitious Youth. Miss Shearer has had the golden things of life poured into her lap. Success, more than even she dreamed. The marriage she wanted, now a son, and recently chosen as the screen's best actress. What has all this done for her? It has made her kinder, tolerant, friendly, more human. She realizes that there are others who have their hopes, their pains, their ambitions, too. She studies humanity, he brings that study to bear in her interpretation of each character she has put upon the screen. Bad woman, good woman, each a perfect study.

In this play by Rachel Crothers, which ran for a year on Broadway, she is the plain wife who divorces her husband when she finds him guilty of philandering. After an interval turns up at a fashionable house party on Long Island, and every moment brings a new victory to the erstwhile ugly duckling, now a worldly beauty, who humbles her ex-husband to the dust. It could hardly fail to please such excellent support. Marie Dressler, who very acutely steals the picture, Tyrone Power, and Hilda Hoppe—both amusing. Rod La Rocque—all that one desires as the husband. Gilbert Emery, the American with the British voice, who will be remembered for his work in "Behind that Curtain," Sally Eilers, and others. Gilbert Emery, writer and soldier, joined up with the French Army before America came into the War. Holds the coveted Legion of Honour, also the Italian Order of the King. He is chosen by Directors as the typical well-bred British type, but he was born in New York and brought in the New England States. Loves everything British, lives a bachelor life, is in his early forties, dresses always in typical British lounge tweeds, and is very popular amongst the select few Britons of the film colony.

Commences early March. Well worth seeing twice. (Queen's).

Irene Bordoni and Jack Buchanan in "Parla". Worth a visit to Kowloon. It is the first Talkie of the famous Continental star. Jack Buchanan needs no introduction to us. He will also be seen at the opening show of the new King's Theatre in "Monte Carlo." Bordoni made her first appearance in New York in support of Elsie Janis in revue. Travels like a Queen with a retinue of servants, etc. Is rather fascinating if you like her style. (Majestic).

* * *

"The Golden Calf" with a favorite of the Movie days, Jack Mullhall, assisted by Sue Carol, El Brendel and Marjorie White, in a search for the perfect leg to advertise Moon hosiery. It may please. (Queen's).

ROUND THE CINEMAS
"THE BIG POND"—A COMEDY DRAMA.

CHEVALIER THE STAR.

France and America are liberally represented in "The Big Pond," Paramount's comedy-drama, with music now showing in the Central Theatre.

The star is Maurice Chevalier, former Idol of Paris, but now Idol of America. He plays the part of an ambitious Frenchman who makes good in an American chewing gum factory. The leading lady is Claudette Colbert, American stage and screen favourite. She plays the role of an American daughter of wealth who meets Chevalier while travelling in Venice. Miss Colbert was born in Paris and lived there until her early teens when she went to New York.

"The Big Pond" was directed by Robert Henley, who directed "The Lady Lies" and "Roadhouse Nights."

The original play upon which the picture is based was written by George Middleton and A. E. Thomas. The screen continuity is the product of Robert Presnell and Garrett Fort. The dialogue was written by Preston Sturges.

"The Big Pond" is Chevalier's third American picture. It follows his successes in "Innocents of Paris" and "The Love Parade."

"THE GOLDEN CALF."

Bohemian life as it is lived by artists and their models in Greenwich Village, is given in "The Golden Calf," Fox Movietone comedy with music, a forthcoming attraction in the Queen's Theatre.

A feature of the production will be the staging of the Illustrators' Ball, a famous annual event in Greenwich Village, on the audible screen.

An all-star cast, which includes

Sue Carol, Jack Mullhall, El Brendel, Marjorie White, Richard Keene and Paul Page, is featured in this production which is directed by Millard Webb.

TRUE TO THE NAVY.

The Navy Department of the United States helped Clara Bow to be "True to the Navy." Technical advisers experienced in sea warfare supervised the sets at the Paramount studios for the "It" girl's latest picture, which will show in the Central Theatre... on next change.

The interior of one of the fourteen inch gun turrets of the U.S.S. Mississippi was duplicated at the motion picture studio, the naval experts, assigned by the Navy Department, making sure that the set was exact in every detail. One scene in the picture shows the fighting seamen at battle practice in the turret.

Fredric March, leading man in "True to the Navy," plays the part of a first class gunner's mate. Frank Tuttle, who directed "Sweetie," made this picture, and Harry Green, featured comedian of "Kibitzer," has a strong supporting role.

KING OF JAZZ.

The biggest bridal veil ever made, a glittering fabric of golden lace which would delight the heart of any woman, is used in the gorgeously colourful atmospheric "Bridal Veil" number of the "King of Jazz," the Universal all-sound and Technicolour musical extravaganza which opens in the Central Theatre soon, starring Paul Whiteman.

Not only is this bridal veil itself 500 yards in extent, but it is surrounded in the number by beautiful bridal costumes all designed by Herman Rosse, the celebrated New York designer.

These costumes, which are worn by the most attractive girls to be found in Hollywood, are period recreations of the finest fabrics and embroideries, the theme of the number being the costuming of the different bridal processions of the past which pass before the present day bride. Jeanette Loft is featured in this number with Stanley Smith.

A special musical score was written for the number and played by Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, who are starred in the revue, with Miss Loft's and Smith's songs especially composed by Milton Ager and Jack Yellen.

John Boles also sings two spectacular musical numbers.

The entire picture was directed by John Murray Anderson, who was brought from New York especially for the purpose of creating the greatest revue.

Meanwhile the speciale of a police cordon collected a large crowd, even though it was one o'clock in the morning.

A score of police continued to comb the Paramount skyscraper until the middle of the morning, but were unable to find any trace of the robber.

BOY BANDIT'S BOLD COUP.

Hold-Up in Centre of New York.

The New York police have been outwitted by a bearded boy bandit, who, in their own words, has committed the boldest crime for years.

The boy stole \$11,150 representing week-end receipts, from the Paramount Theatre, in the heart of New York, and in spite of a police cordon which was quickly organised, succeeded in making good his escape.

The robbery was carefully planned. The boy took the sole available lift to the treasurer's office in the fourth storey of the Paramount building, one of the most imposing new skyscrapers in Times Square. There he forced the lift operator to accompany him to the office, where Mr. Dreylinger, the treasurer, was counting the receipts from the midnight performance.

Mr. Dreylinger, thinking the lift man had brought the sandwiches he had ordered, opened the door, to be confronted with the pistol held by the masked youth, whose downy cheek attested to the fact that he was too young to shave.

Telephone Dismantled.

Mr. Dreylinger, thinking the lift man had brought the sandwiches he had ordered, opened the door, to be confronted with the pistol held by the masked youth, whose downy cheek attested to the fact that he was too young to shave.

(Continued at foot of preceding Column.)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

MATER	ORE UP	DO AIN	DELHI
LAD	BOSTON	WED	
A LEST NEW			
ROSE SARA ARIA	FETTER TRIES		
TART	II		
TENOR NONAGE	PORT USES INTO		
PORT SAM ACID	A RAT SPIRAL BAR		
TRY PS RU EYE	SERIES SAGES		

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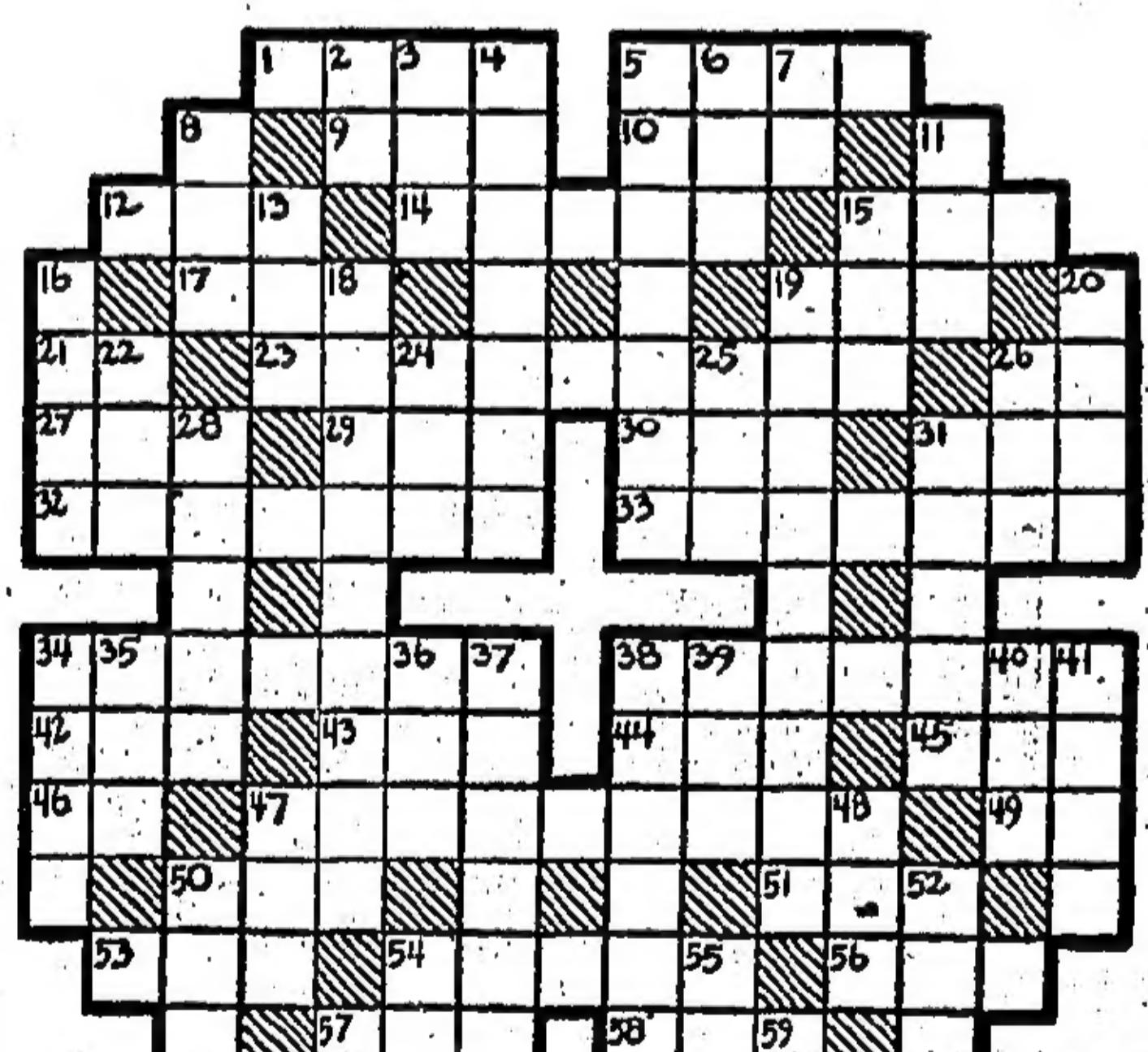
THE MARBLE HALL

21, Nathan Rd., Kowloon.

Telephone 57089.

DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

(This cross-word puzzle has been made by an expert but our readers are warned to look out for occasional phonetic spellings, such as harbor, plow, and altho.)



HORIZONTAL	HORIZONTAL (Cont.)
1-Have	22-Territory (abbr.)
5-Plant	24-Metric land measure
9-Organ of hearing	25-Serio-tongue
10-A color	26-Tavern
12-Deface	28-Free from faults
14-A candle	31-One of the Harpies
15-A rug	34-Crowd
17-Plunge	35-Ever (cont)
19-End	36-Chart
21-Pronoun	37-Bolt
23-Anounced by	38-Missed
26-Within	39-To take leave (abbr.)
27-Born (Fr.)	40-Time period
28-Before	41-Batisfy
29-Post (Post)	42-Tricky
31-Prefix. Upward	43-Carved memorial
32-Slosh	44-post of Indiana
33-Made deaf	45-Insect
34-A French color	46-Speak
38-Smother	47-Look
42-A color	48-A high hill (Eng.)
43-Distant	49-Topographical
44-Japanese statesman	50-Friendly (abbr.)
45-Feminine name	51-Touchful
48-Arab (abbr.)	52-Masculine name (abbr.)
49-Commemorates	53-The solution of the above cross-word puzzle will appear in tomorrow's issue along with a new cross-word puzzle.

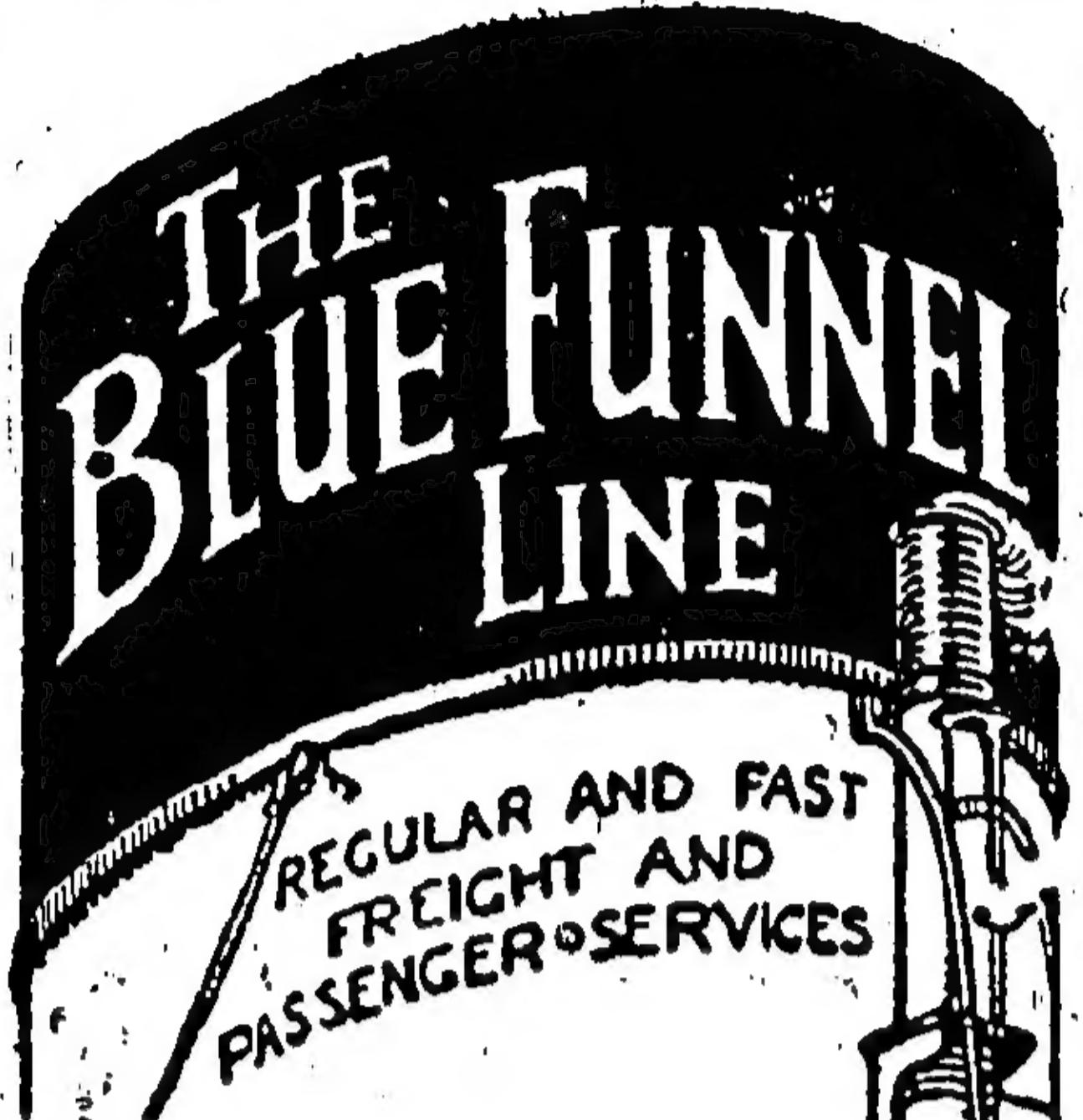
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LIVERPOOL SERVICE.
"PELEUS" 20th Feb. For Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"EURYLOCHUS" 20th Mar. For Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
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(via KOBE & YOKOHAMA.)
"PROTEUS" 21st Feb. For Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
"TEUER" 14th Mar. For Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle
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Bubbling with his old sparkle and
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The Big Pond

A Paramount Picture

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brings him to you through your
own back door.

NEXT CHANGE
CLARA BOW

In a Naughty Nautical Romance
"TRUE TO THE NAVY"

It's a Paramount Picture
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The China Mail

Friday, February 20, 1931.
First Moon, 4th Day.

ESTABLISHED
1845

大英式月刊
中華民國辛未年元月初四日

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1931.

LABOUR VICTORY.

MRS. MANNING AT TOP OF
ISLINGTON POLL.

BIG MAJORITY.

London, Yesterday.

The result of the by-election at East Islington, caused by the death of Dr. Ethel Bentham, is as follows:-

Mrs. Manning (Labour)	10,591
Brigadier-General Critchley (Empire Crusader)	8,314
Miss Cazalet (Conservative)	7,182
Major Crawford (Liberal)	4,450

There is thus no Party change in the Division, Labour having won at the General Election by a majority of 2,277 votes.—Reuter.

SMITH FAMILY.

FUND ORGANISED FOR THEIR RELIEF.

London, Yesterday.

Mr. Winston Churchill, one of the late Lord Birkenhead's closest friends, has organized a fund to assist the Earl's relatives, who are insufficiently provided for, although he made a considerable income from books, journalism and directorships, towards the close of his life.

A number of distinguished persons have subscribed to the fund, which is already large.—Reuter

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Obtainable of all chemists.

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Irene Bordoni in PARIS

with Jack Buchanan Jason Robards and Zasu Pitts

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Based on play by Martin Steven
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SPAIN'S TROUBLES.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD.

HEADING FOR NORMAL

Madrid, Yesterday.

Admiral Aznar announces that the Government will endeavour to assure the return of normal constitutional government. Municipal elections will be held after the general elections, before the summoning of Parliament, which will be a constituent body whose duty will be to modify the constitution of 1876.

The Constitutionalist group has decided not to participate in the elections.—Reuter.

a declaration of a state of national emergency.—Reuter.

Motion Defeated.

Canberra, Yesterday. At a meeting of the Labour caucus, a motion calling upon the Government to declare a state of national emergency was defeated by 41 votes to 5, and Mr. Theodore's rehabilitation plan was adopted by 27 votes to 19, with the stipulation that if the Commonwealth Bank Board again rejected this plan, the Government must challenge the Senate with legislation to nationalise banking.

Meanwhile the Australian Council of the Trade Union Congress has defeated by 113 to 40 votes a resolution in favour of a general strike, and has decided to send a delegation to Canberra to demand

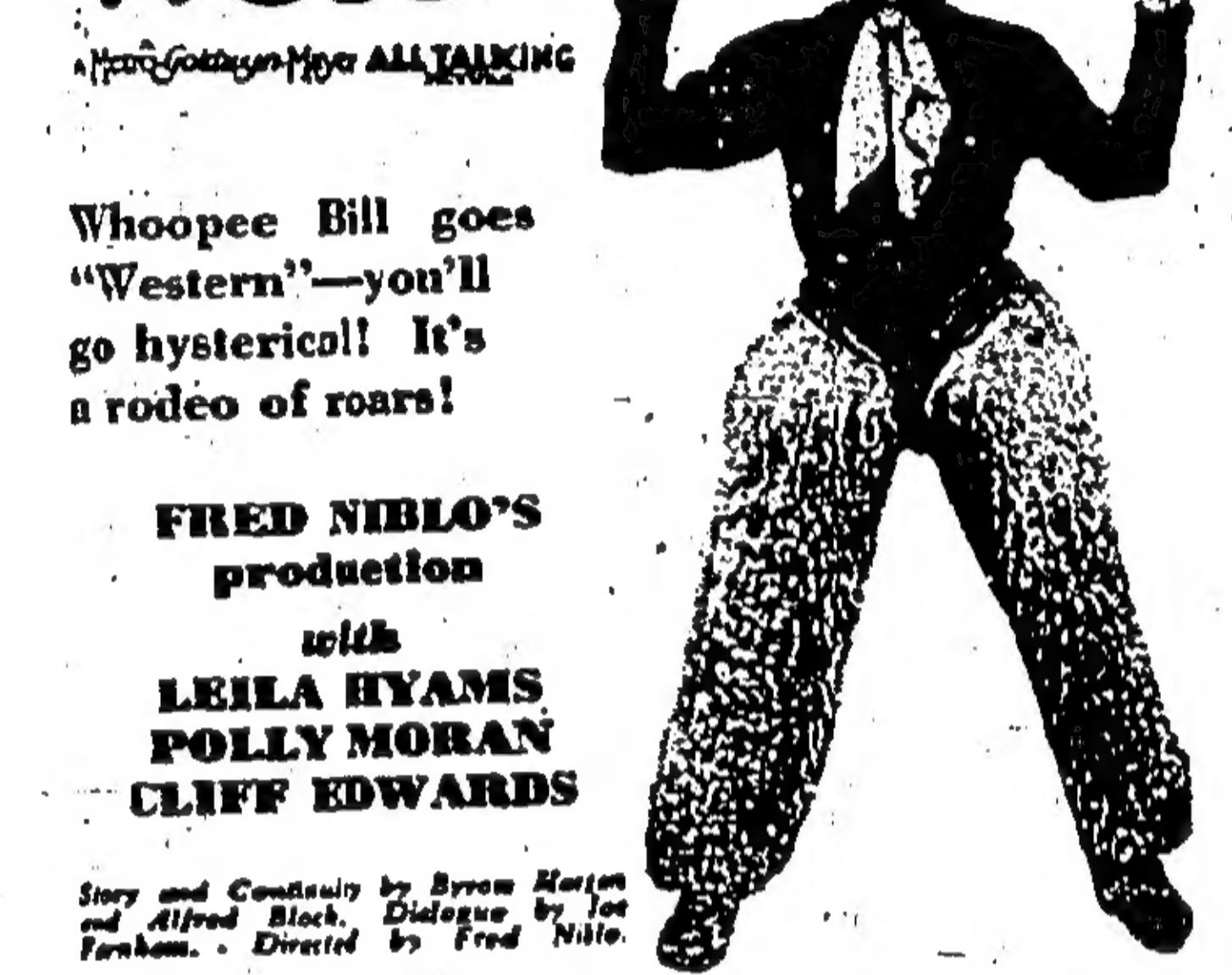
AMUSEMENTS

AT THE
QUEEN'S
TO-DAY AND
TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20.



takes you
out where
Laughs
are
Laughs!

Way Out West



Story and Continuity by Bruce Harman
and Alfred Black. Dialogue by Joe Frankham. Directed by Fred Nile.

NEWSREEL

REVIEW
of
1930.

REVUETTÉ
"SHIP AHoy"
with
PHIL SPITALNY

MUSICAL
"TITA
RUFFO"

NEXT CHANGE

SUE CAROL
JACK MULHALL
EL BREND
MARJORIE WHITE
RICHARD KEENE
PAUL PAGE
IN

An Eye Filling, True
Thrilling Comedy of
Legs, Love
and
Laughter.

Presented by
WILLIAM FOX

The golden calf

PETER B. KYNE'S

JIM THE CONQUEROR
A THRILLING ROMANCE OF THE WEST
with WILLIAM BOYD
AT THE STAR TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 5.10 & 9.20.